



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY
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MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Y. Gross

Office: (502) 564-2015 **Cellular:** (502) 330-5063 **E-mail:** lisa.gross@education.ky.gov

MILKEN AWARD TO BE PRESENTED

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – A Kentucky educator will get the surprise of a lifetime this week, when he or she will be notified of his or her selection as a [Milken Family Foundation](#) Educator.

On Tuesday, December 11, at 8:15 a.m. CT, the educator will be visited by Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday, First Lady Jane Beshear and other special guests. The educator is employed by Mary Lee Cravens Elementary in the Owensboro Independent school district.

Commissioner Holliday and other visitors will arrive at the school at approximately 8 a.m. CT.

CONFIDENTIALITY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN THIS VISIT. The winner does not know of his or her selection.

The largest teacher recognition program in the U.S., the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards were created to reward, retain and attract the highest quality K-12 educators to the profession. Each Milken Educator receives an unrestricted financial award of \$25,000.

Since 1993, when the state joined the program, 52 Kentucky educators have received the award.

(more)

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**MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION
2012 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARDS
FACT SHEET – KENTUCKY**

The Awards	The Milken Educator Awards provide recognition and unrestricted financial awards of \$25,000 to exceptional elementary and secondary school teachers, principals, and specialists who are furthering excellence in our nation's schools. This year up to 40 of America's finest educators will be honored.		
National Notifications	Each year exceptional educators—considered without their knowledge by a blue-ribbon panel appointed by each state's department of education—are surprised with the news of their \$25,000 Awards, which they can use in any way they choose. These announcements are made during emotional assemblies held at each recipient's school, and are attended by students and peers, as well as federal, state and local officials, and the media.		
Key Statistics	<u>National</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 40 recipients across the country• More than 2,500 recipients since inception (including new recipients)• Over \$63 million in awards since inception	<u>Kentucky</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$25,000 to be awarded in Kentucky• 1 recipient in 2012• 52 recipients since program began in Kentucky• \$1,300,000 awarded in Kentucky since program began	
History	The Milken Educator Awards were first presented by the Milken Family Foundation in 1987.	Kentucky joined the Milken Educator Awards program in 1993.	
Milken Family Foundation	The Milken Family Foundation was established in 1982 to discover and advance inventive and effective ways of helping people help themselves and those around them lead productive and satisfying lives. The Foundation advances this mission primarily through its work in education and medical research.		
Contacts	Milken Family Foundation 1250 Fourth Street Santa Monica, CA 90401	Jana Rausch (310) 570-4774 jrausch@mff.org	Barbara Bowers (310) 570-4773 bbowers@mff.org